

**From:** CHRIS HAWLEY  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 1:40pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I am a US citizen currently residing in Ottawa, Ontario Canada.

My concerns with the proposed settlement are as follows and I am grateful for this chance to list them. Please, in the interests of restoring a truly competitive environment in the areas of computer operating systems and office productivity software, consider these points:

1) Use industry standard definitions for things like "API". The API's are a huge barrier to entry with any application who would compete with Microsoft, because they are kept secret by MS to stifle competition. Any interfaces into Windows or other applications which are designed to be used by programs or automated processes should fall into the term API, and it should be defined in the judgement to be so inclusive.

2) Allow competitors to use the API information to make their software compatible with Windows.

3) The judgement would allow Microsoft to continue a lot of anti-competitive practices, many of which could be leveraged to terrible effect if they were "legitimized" in the court by not being struck down now.

4) As a user of Office and Windows, I have tried to use competing products like StarOffice and Linux, but I find that the compatibility with Office or Windows is never good enough to truly replace them. This is directly due to the intentional concealment of standard communications information such as file formats and programming API's.

Thank you for your time.

Chris

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